TIFF offers animated gems from outside Hollywood; Plenty on offer at TIFF Kids, plus a wrestling rom-com at Scotiabank and new trumpet doc at Hot Docs

The Toronto Star

April 7, 2017 Friday

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Section: ENTERTAINMENT; Pg. E2

Length: 741 words

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TIFF Kids: TIFF Kids is really just like the regular TIFF, except with less Hollywood wheeling-and-dealing and more face painting. As such, it makes for an ideal destination for families looking for worthwhile distractions on the next three weekends.

Built for movie lovers aged 3 to 13, the TIFF Kids slate features over 160 films along with other special events, on-site activities and the ever-popular digiPlaySpace exhibition - it all takes place at TIFF Bell Lightbox.

One of the best things about the festival is the chance to see an array of animated features from places other than Hollywood (though there are some of those, too). An Oscar-nominated stop-motion marvel from Switzerland and France, My Life as a Courgette (Sunday and April 17) wrests unexpected moments of joy, warmth and delight from the sometimes dark story of youngsters living at a foster home. The latest by French master and former Oscar nominee Michel Ocelot, Ivan Tsarevitch and the Changing Princess (April 15 and 22), is a quartet of enchanting stories that mix up monsters, pirates, cats and some very courageous girls. The German animators behind The Gruffalo and Room on the Broom team up to take on Roald Dahl for Revolting Rhymes (April 14, 15 and 22).

Studio Ghibli's many devotees can also see a big-screen presentation of Ronja, the Robber's Daughter (April 23), the fabled animation studio's recent TV adaptation of the stories of Astrid Lindgren. Disney's new series of Tangled plays a preview on Saturday, too, as does Rock Dog, a canine-centric comedy by Toy Story 2 co-director Ash Brannon.

Of course, the usual bounty of live-action features, documentaries and shorts should not go neglected when TIFF Kids fills the Lightbox with tykes Friday to April 23.

I Called Him Morgan: A trumpeter who was only a teenager when he caught the attention of John Coltrane and Art Blakey, Lee Morgan seemed destined to become a jazz legend before fate decided otherwise. Between sets by his band at a club in New York's East Village in 1972, the 33-year-old Morgan was shot by his common-law wife, Helen, and bled to death before an ambulance could make it to him through the snowstorm outside. A TIFF 2016 selection that returns for a run at the Hot Docs Ted Rogers Cinema, Kasper Collin's I Called Him Morgan has won wide acclaim for its account of Morgan's stormy life, its sensitive portrayal of a love story that turned tragic and for its celebration of his musical genius. It plays Friday to Wednesday.

Chokeslam: Surely if there's one thing that moviegoers have been unfairly deprived for far too long, it's a wrestling-themed rom-com. Calgary-based director Robert Cuffley rectifies this injustice with Chokeslam, an engaging feature whose cast includes both Silicon Valley regular Amanda Crew and WWE Hall of Famer Mick (Mankind) Foley. It opens Friday at Scotiabank Theatre.

The Devout: Another Canadian movie new to Toronto, The Devout is a drama about a religious-minded family who must contend with the possibility that their terminally ill daughter may be the reincarnation of an American astronaut. Even odder is the fact that the movie - which marks the feature debut of B.C. filmmaker Connor Gaston - is based on true events. Gaston's intriguing effort opens at the Carlton Friday.

Your Name.: A low-budget Japanese anime feature about a teenage boy in Tokyo and a small-town girl who somehow switch bodies, Your Name. became a massive hit with audiences in Asia last year. In fact, it's now the highest-grossing Japanese movie of all time, recently surpassing the former champ, Spirited Away. (It recently topped Frozen's take in Japan, too.) Viewers in Toronto can discover its charms when four Cineplex locations present screenings of the dubbed and subtitled versions Friday to Wednesday.

In brief:

A romantic sports drama starring Billy Crudup, 1 Mile to You opens Friday at the Carlton.

Ladies rule at the Revue this week. On Sunday, there's a screening of the documentary Rachel Carson and a talk about the pioneering eco-activist for the cinema's Extraordinary Women series, and on Thursday there's a star-studded live reading of Mean Girls.

The Royal shows two very different but equally explosive music movies from the 1960s: The T.A.M.I. Show on Saturday and Peter Watkins' rock-and-religion satire Privilege on Thursday.

The Shorts That Are Not Pants series provides a fresh slate of mini-movies at the Carlton on Thursday.

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Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Document-Type: COLUMN

Publication-Type: NEWSPAPER

Subject: ANIMATION (90%); FILM FESTIVALS (90%); TRENDS & EVENTS (90%); ACADEMY AWARDS (89%); ANIMATED FILMS (89%); COMEDY FILMS (89%); FILM (89%); MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (89%); WIND INSTRUMENTS (89%); FESTIVALS (79%); CELEBRITIES (78%); VISUAL ARTISTS (78%); JAZZ & BLUES (76%); ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS AWARDS (74%); COHABITATION (72%); DOCUMENTARY FILMS (72%); FOSTER CARE (72%)

Company: BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA (58%); WALT DISNEY CO (54%)

Ticker: BNS (TSX) (58%); BNS (NYSE) (58%); DIS (NYSE) (54%)

Industry: NAICS522110 COMMERCIAL BANKING (58%); SIC6029 COMMERCIAL BANKS, NEC (58%); NAICS713110 AMUSEMENT & THEME PARKS (54%); NAICS515112 RADIO STATIONS (54%); NAICS512110 MOTION PICTURE & VIDEO PRODUCTION (54%); NAICS453220 GIFT, NOVELTY & SOUVENIR STORES

(54%); ANIMATION (90%); FILM FESTIVALS (90%); ACADEMY AWARDS (89%); ANIMATED FILMS (89%); COMEDY FILMS (89%); FAMILY TRAVEL (89%); FILM (89%); MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (89%); WIND INSTRUMENTS (89%); FESTIVALS (79%); CELEBRITIES (78%); VISUAL ARTISTS (78%); MOVIE & VIDEO PRODUCTION (77%); ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS AWARDS (74%); DOCUMENTARY FILMS (72%)

Geographic: NEW YORK, USA (52%); FRANCE (71%)

Load-Date: April 7, 2017

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